

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/EP 03/50969

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 C12Q1/68 G01N33/15 G01N13/00 B01F1/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C12Q B01F G01N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 96/28717 A (CORTECS LTD ;BARNWELL STEPHEN GEORGE (GB); BURNS STEPHEN JOHN (GB)) 19 September 1996 (1996-09-19)	1,9
A	page 3, line 23 -page 4, line 18; figures page 5, line 6 - line 24; figures	10
X	US 3 801 280 A (PEOT C ET AL) 2 April 1974 (1974-04-02) column 3, line 26 - line 47 column 4, line 10 - line 12; figures 1,2 column 5, line 64 - line 66 column 6, line 55 - line 65	1,10,11
X	DE 197 25 015 A (BAYER AG) 17 December 1998 (1998-12-17) column 2, line 27 - line 37; figures	1
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

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T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

21 April 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

29/04/2004

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A	DE 198 80 832 C (KRAEMER NORBERT) 7 June 2001 (2001-06-07) column 6, line 36 - line 40; figures 1,2 column 7, line 8 - line 14 ----	1
A	US 5 827 984 A (SINNREICH JOEL ET AL) 27 October 1998 (1998-10-27) column 6, line 28 - line 41; figure 1 ----	1
A	US 5 796 016 A (MUELLER WERNER G) 18 August 1998 (1998-08-18) column 1, line 6 - line 17 column 2, line 57 - line 65; figure 4 ----	1
A	US 5 412 979 A (FASSIHI ALIREZA D) 9 May 1995 (1995-05-09) cited in the application column 2, line 37 - line 65; figures ----	1
A	US 3 572 648 A (HANSON WILLIAM A) 30 March 1971 (1971-03-30) column 1, line 27 - line 41 column 2, line 1 - line 28 column 4, line 1 - line 26; figure 2 ----	1
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